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Message Text

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43
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 CU-02 SY-05

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 A-01 OPR-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /084 W
---------- 067327
O R 261340Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2671
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 4316

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH, HUNTER
SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: MEETING WITH FORMIN BULA

REF: STATE 122369, DAR ES SALAAM 1698 AND 1693

1. GAVE FOREIGN MINISTER BULA TEXT (MAY 26 OF LETTER FROM CAPTIVES (DAR 1693), STRESSING NEED FOR ABSOLUTE CONFIDENTIALITY. I ALSO SAID DELIVERY LETTER WAS EVIDENCE THAT US GOVERNMENT WANTED CONSULT CLOSELY WITH GOZ. WE WERE PARTICULARLY DESIROUS OF HAVING GOZ ASSURANCES THAT NO ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN IN LAKE TANGANYIKA AREA WHICH MIGHT ENDANGER CAPTIVES WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH USG.

2. BULA READ LETTER CAREFULLY, REMARKED THAT SITUATION GRAVE AND MORE COMPLICATED NOW. HE NOTED ENOUGH ARMS WERE REQUESTED FOR AN ARMY. HE SAID HE WOULD SEEK INFORMATION FROM ZAIRIAN INTELLIGENCE REGARDING INDIVIDUALS WHOSE RELEASE IS REQUESTED. HE RECOGNIZED THAT GOZ
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ACTIVITY COULD ENDANGER CAPTIVES AND ASSURED ME GOZ WOULD

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NOT ACT WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH USG.

3. IT IS GOOD TO HAVE HIS APPARENT UNDERSTANDING AND HIS ASSURANCES BUT I THINK WE CAN TAKE EVEN MORE COMFORT FROM FACT THAT GOZ HAS BEEN SEEKING ELIMINATE KABILA GROUP FOR OVER SEVEN YEARS AND APPARENTLY DOES NOT HAVE CAPABILITY TO DO SO. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT TROOPS IN AREA RARELY, IF EVER, VENTURE OFF ROADS.

4. PERHAPS BEST EVIDENCE THAT GOZ TAKES MATTER SERIOUSLY IS FACT THAT TO BEST MY KNOWLEDGE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS NEVER BEFORE RECEIVED ANY RESIDENT AMBASSADOR DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS.

5. RE CONFIDENTIALITY, I THINK THERE NO QUESTION ABOUT THIS. IN FACT, TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE, THERE HAS NOT BEEN A WORD IN ZAIRIAN PRESS OR ON RADIO ABOUT KIDNAPPING SINCE EVENT OCCURRED. BULA WAS AWARE OF BBC BROADCAST WHICH REPORTED THAT STUDENTS WERE IN HANDS OF "MARXIST" GROUP IN ZAIRE. HE ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT CONTENTS NYERERE LETTER AND I SAID AS OF NOW ALL I KNEW WAS THAT IT EXISTED, THAT PRESUMABLY IT WAS SIMILAR TO LETTER THAT I GAVE HIM EXCEPT THAT PERHAPS IT CONTAINED INDICATION OF HOW COMMUNICATIONS WERE TO BE ESTABLISHED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, CITIZEN PROTECTION, WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, TERRORISTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KINSHA04316
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750184-0308
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750518/aaaaapvi.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 122369, 75 DAR ES SALAAM 1698, 75 AND 1693
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: MEETING WITH FORMIN BULA
TAGS: CASC, PINS, US, TZ, CG, (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEVE), (HUNTER, CARRIE), (BULA, MANDUNGU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

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